

By: Price, King of Hemphill

H.B. No. 1603

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to certain powers and duties of the Palo Duro River Authority of Texas.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Chapter 438, Acts of the 63rd Legislature, Regular Session, 1973, is amended by adding Sections 3A, 3B, and 3C and amending Section 5 to read as follows:

Sec. 3A. The Authority may:

(1) develop and generate electric energy by means of renewable energy resources inside the boundaries of the Authority; and

(2) distribute and sell electric energy to:

(A) an entity that operates in the Electric Reliability Council of Texas power region;

(B) an entity that operates in the Southwest Power Pool power region; or

(C) an electric cooperative, as defined by Section 161.002, Utilities Code, that operates in this state.

Sec. 3B. Section 3A does not require an entity described by that section to build a new transmission line. Grid interconnection made for the purposes of Section 3A does not subject an entity described by that section to the jurisdiction of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and does not affect the jurisdiction of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission over an

1 entity over which the commission already has jurisdiction.

2 Sec. 3C. The Authority may:

3 (1) lease the hunting rights on property owned by the
4 Authority; and

5 (2) develop, manage, or lease property owned by the
6 Authority for any recreational purpose.

7 Sec. 5. (a) The Authority may not construct a [No] dam or
8 other facility [~~facilities~~] for impounding water [~~shall be~~
9 ~~constructed~~] until the plans therefor are approved by the Texas
10 Commission on Environmental Quality [~~Texas Water Rights~~
11 ~~Commission~~]. The Authority is not authorized to develop or
12 otherwise acquire underground sources of water.

13 (b) The Authority may sell, trade, or otherwise dispose of
14 any real or personal property deemed by the Authority [~~this~~
15 ~~Commission~~] not to be needed for Authority purposes, subject to the
16 terms of any deed of trust or other indenture [~~issued by the~~
17 ~~Commission~~].

18 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
19 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
20 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
21 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
22 Act takes effect September 1, 2017.